

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 18 of 1888.]

# REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 5th May 1888.

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**LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.**

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<b>BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadí" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh.	.....	
2	"Kasipore Nibási" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....	
4	"Chandra Vilásh" ...	Berhampore	.....	26th April 1888.
5	"Divákar" ...	Calcutta	.....	
6	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah	.....	
7	"Grambási" ...	Uluberia	.....	26th ditto.
8	"Púrva Bangabási" ...	Noakhally	.....	
9	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
10	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
11	"Apuva Dhan" ...	Calcutta	.....	
12	"Arya Darpan" ...	Ditto	102	27th ditto.
13	"Bangabási" ...	Ditto	20,000	28th ditto.
14	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan	302	24th ditto.
15	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	24th ditto.
16	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong	.....	
17	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	450	29th ditto.
18	"Dhumaketu" ...	Chandernagore	.....	
19	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	825	27th ditto.
20	"Garib" ...	Dacca	.....	25th ditto.
21	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	25th ditto.
22	"Jagatbási" ...	Calcutta	.....	26th ditto.
23	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore	508	
24	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	.....	27th ditto.
25	"Navavibhákár Sádharáni" ...	Calcutta	1,000	30th ditto.
26	"Prajá Bandhu" ...	Chandernagore	995	27th ditto.
27	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore	600	27th ditto.
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kakiniá, Rungpore	205	26th ditto.
29	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	25th ditto.
30	"Samaya" ...	Ditto	2,350	27th ditto.
31	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	28th ditto.
32	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	800	20th ditto.
33	"Saráswat Patra" ...	Dacca	400	
34	"Som Prakásh" ...	Calcutta	1,000	30th ditto.
35	"Srimanta Saudagár" ...	Ditto	.....	26th ditto.
36	"Sulabha Samáchar and Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	3,000	27th ditto.
37	"Surabhi and Patáká" ...	Ditto	700	26th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
38	"Dainik and Samachár Chandriká" ...	Calcutta	7,000	29th & 30th April & 1st & 2nd May 1888.
39	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto	200	
40	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	300	
41	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Ditto	500	



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<b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Dacca Gazette" ... ..	Dacca	.....	30th April 1888.
<b>HINDI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
43	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Sámachār Patrikā"	Darjeeling	.....	19th ditto.
44	"Kshatriya Pratikā" ... ..	Patna	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
45	"Aryāvarta" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	28th ditto.
46	"Behar Bandhu" ... ..	Bankipore	.....	
47	"Bhārat Mitra" ... ..	Calcutta	1,500	28th ditto.
48	"Sār Sudhānidhi" ... ..	Ditto	500	30th ditto.
49	"Uchit Baktā" ... ..	Ditto	4,500	
50	"Hindi Sámachār" ... ..	Bhagulpore	1,000	
<b>PERSIAN.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	"Jām-Jahān-numā" ... ..	Calcutta	250	27th ditto.
<b>URDU.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Aftal Alum Arrah" ... ..	Arrah	.....	
53	"Anis" ... ..	Patna	.....	9th & 16th April 1888.
54	"Gauhur" ... ..	Calcutta	196	
55	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ... ..	Behar	150	
56	"Al Punch" ... ..	Bankipore	.....	23rd April 1888.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
57	"Akhhbar-i-darusaltanat" ... ..	Calcutta	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
58	"Urdu Guide" ... ..	Calcutta	212	26th, 28th & 30th April and 1st and 2nd May 888.
<b>URIYA.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
59	"Taraka and Subhavartā" ... ..	Cuttack	.....	
60	"Pradīp" ... ..	Ditto	.....	
61	"Samyabadi" ... ..	Ditto	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
62	"Utkal Dīpikā" ... ..	Cuttack	200	14th April 1888.
63	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika" ... ..	Balasore	205	12th ditto.
64	"Uriya and Navasamvād" ... ..	Balasore	.....	18th ditto.
<b>PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.</b>				
<b>BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
65	"Silchar" ... ..	Silchar	.....	23rd ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Paridarshak" ... ..	Silchar	450	23rd ditto.



Name of person or firm and address	Occupation	Place of business	Remarks
J. H. Smith, 123 Main St., New York	Merchant	New York	...
W. J. Brown, 456 Broadway, New York	Lawyer	New York	...
A. C. White, 789 Third Ave., New York	Engineer	New York	...
M. D. Green, 101 West 12th St., New York	Teacher	New York	...
R. L. Black, 234 Fifth Ave., New York	Doctor	New York	...
S. P. Gray, 567 Park Ave., New York	Banker	New York	...
T. K. Hall, 890 Madison Ave., New York	Artist	New York	...
L. M. King, 112 West 42nd St., New York	Reporter	New York	...
N. O. Lee, 345 E. 14th St., New York	Writer	New York	...
H. W. Scott, 678 West 21st St., New York	Musician	New York	...
J. B. Young, 901 Broadway, New York	Actor	New York	...
K. E. Adams, 123 West 28th St., New York	Dancer	New York	...
P. Q. Baker, 456 West 34th St., New York	Singer	New York	...
Q. R. Carter, 789 West 40th St., New York	Comedian	New York	...
R. S. Evans, 101 West 46th St., New York	Juggler	New York	...



## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

**THE Sahachar**, of the 25th April, says that Government has rejected the proposal of the Rajah of Bhootan to mediate on behalf of Thibet, and that all prospect therefore of a peaceful settlement of Thibet affairs is at an end. Why should Englishmen, the same paper asks, be kind to the weak?

SACHAR,  
April 25th, 1888.

2. **The Sulabh Samachar and Kushdaha**, of the 27th April, says that the Deb Raj of Bhootan has offered to mediate between the English Government and Thibet;

SULABH SAMACHAR  
& KUSHDAHA,  
April 27th, 1888.

but it does not seem probable that the English Government will make up its differences with Thibet. It is always anxious to make peace with powerful enemies, but it is ever ready to pick quarrels with a weak foe.

3. **The Bangabasi**, of the 28th April, says that it appears from the statements of the *Englishman* newspaper that the Government of India is making preparations for an expedition to Thibet. The Government is unwilling to make peace, and has therefore rejected the offer of the Deb Raj of Bhootan to mediate between the two Governments. The writer is fully convinced that the object of the expedition is not to send troops to Sikkim, but to annex Thibet. There can be no doubt that Lord Dufferin will, on the eve of his departure from this country, make arrangements for sending an expedition to Thibet, and thereby fulfil the expectations of those who have presented him with a farewell address.

BANGABASI,  
April 28th, 1888.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

4. **The Burdwan Sanjivani**, of the 24th April, complains of the prevalence of dacoity in the villages within the jurisdiction of the Rayana thana, in the district of Burdwan, and gives some instances by way of example. The Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police, Burdwan, are asked to look to the matter.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
April 24th, 1888.

5. The same paper says that the police ought to make special efforts to detect the party who set fire to the house of the late Ananda Chandra Bhattacharjee in the village of Pasanda within the jurisdiction of the Rayana thana.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

6. **The Bharat Mitra**, of the 26th April, complains of the oppression of the coachmen of hackney carriages by the Calcutta Police. Even the carriages occupied by female passengers are forcibly taken to the thana. The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, is requested to look to the matter.

BHARAT MITRA,  
April 26th, 1888.

7. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 28th April, complains of the high-handed proceedings of Mr. Hampton, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mymensingh. Some time ago Mr. Hampton used abusive language towards Baboo Purna Chandra Ghose, the head-constable of Mymensingh, for which he was reprovved by the District Superintendent of Police. The writer draws the attention of the District Superintendent of Police to the following cases of Mr. Hampton's high-handedness:—

SANJIVANI,  
April 28th, 1888.

1.—On the 24th Chaitra (5th April) last, he stopped a *Sankirtan* procession of some respectable persons and used abusive language towards them. When they threatened him with a suit, he expressed sorrow for what he had done and asked their pardon. The matter was thus hushed up.



2.—Five or six days ago he threatened to assault Baboo Prasanna Kumar Chakravarti, a Native Christian, on the public road, and called him a cowardly Bengali.

Baboo Prasanna Kumar determined to prosecute him; but Mr. Hampton sought the assistance of the local clergyman to have the matter compromised. The Native Christians of the station assembled at the residence of the local clergyman, where Mr. Hampton asked pardon of Prasanna Baboo in their presence for what he had done.

It is hoped that Mr. Hampton will not behave so disgracefully in future. Such ungentlemanly conduct only makes him an object of public ridicule.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
April 30th, 1888.

8. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 30th April, notices a correspondence in which it is complained that a person has been levying tolls for the last two years at

Illegal tolls at Gopalpore, Tipperah. Gopalpore, in the Gangamandal pergunnah of the Tipperah district, on all boats in the river Gomati. The Muradnagore police winks at these illegal proceedings, and takes no steps to remedy the evil when complaints are made to it about these extortions. Such tolls have been extorted from Pitambar Bepari and Madhava Bepari of Kaligunge; Gopal Bepari, Bhagaban (Pandayuk) of Kasi (Brahmanberiah); Ramgati of Sarikpore; Chitragobinda of Dolalpore, Mymensingh, and Jabask Miya of Hosseinpore, Sylhet. The attention of the District Magistrate of Tipperah is drawn to this matter.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
May 3rd, 1888.

9. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 3rd May, says that there is quite a dacoity scare at Keyotara in the Burdwan district. The villagers are living in a state of great uneasiness. A short time ago a dacoity was committed in the village. An attempt to commit dacoity was also made in the village three days after that. The police should look to the matter.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

SAHACHAR,  
April 25th, 1888.

10. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th April, thinks that the sentence of a fine of Rs. 10 recently passed on a police constable of Calcutta for severely beating his debtor is insufficient, and remarks that, considering the gravity of his offence, the man ought to have been heavily punished. Light punishments of this sort will only serve to make the Calcutta Police more unruly and oppressive.

GARIB,  
April 25th, 1888.

11. The *Garib*, of the 25th April, says that the recent arrangement for holding the Civil and Criminal Courts at Dacca in the morning has caused serious inconvenience to poor suitors. It was not unusually hot this year, and the weather has much cooled down after the tornado. Under these circumstances, the arrangement for holding Courts in the morning should be discontinued. The poor cultivators work in their fields in the morning, and during noon they come to Court if they have any business there. The present arrangement greatly interferes with their work in the fields. Besides, the new arrangement was not previously announced by beat of drums or by advertisement in the local newspapers. Many people are therefore ignorant of the recent change in the time of holding the Courts.

GARIB.

12. The same paper says that as soon as Mr. R. C. Dutt reported to Government that both Baboos Sashi Sekhar Dutt and Ram Kumar were guilty, and Mr. Pratt, the Sessions Judge of Mymensingh, sent Ram Kumar to jail for six months for his illegal acts, Mr. Larminie, the Commissioner of the Dacca

The Tangail case.



Division, Mr. Glazier, the late Magistrate of Mymensingh, and Mr. Veasey, the Inspector-General of Police, exerted themselves to maintain the prestige of the magisterial and police services. They began to correspond privately with Government on the Tangail case, and instructed Ram Kumar to prefer an appeal to the High Court, and Mr. Evans was retained by Government to plead his case in that Court. It is inexplicable why the poor people of Bengal should be made to pay for the defence of Ram Kumar in the High Court.

13. The *Hindu Banjika*, of the 25th April, says that the Judges of the High Court have destroyed the dignity and sanctity of that high tribunal by their proceedings in connection with the trial of Ram Kumar. Many novel features were observed during the course of the trial of this case—

HINDU BANJIKÁ,  
April 25th, 1888.

- (1) The Judges lost their patience.
- (2) The Judges have disbelieved the evidence given in the lower court, which is a complete departure from the existing practice of the High Court.
- (3) The Judges have made severe reflections on the benevolent and kind-hearted Barrister, Mr. Mon Mohun Ghosh.

The wicked *Pioneer* and *Englishman* newspapers are making much of this case; and this has aroused suspicions that there is some foul play at the bottom of this case.

The Lieutenant-Governor has, in his Resolution on the Tangail case, used harsh expressions in speaking of Janhavi Chowdhurani.

It has been several times stated in the Resolution that she had knowingly instituted this false case. It would have been better if, instead of showering abuses on Janhavi Chowdhurani, Government had prosecuted her for instituting a false case. The Government Resolution was published on the 24th April, and the Judges had only the day before orally delivered their judgment. Did the Judges communicate to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor their decision acquitting Baboo Ram Kumar? Did the Lieutenant-Governor write out and publish the Resolution on the very night on which he received the news of the acquittal of Ram Kumar? The writer has the highest respect for Sir Stuart Bayley, and does not impute any motive to His Honour in publishing the Resolution; but he is constrained to observe that the public are not satisfied with the Resolution or with the decision of the High Court.

14. The *Surabhi and Patáka*, of the 26th April, waits to see what punishment the Lieutenant-Governor inflicts on Mr. Posford, District Judge of Burisal, for his recent quarrel with the pleaders of his Court.

SURABHI & PATÁKA,  
April 26th, 1888.

15. The *Samaya*, of the 27th April, thus reviews the High Court's decision in the Tangail case:— The decision of the High Court in this case would seem to be based upon the supposition that owing

SAMAYA,  
April 27th, 1888.

to some strong hallucination that must have taken possession of the minds of the Sessions Judge, the Magistrate and the assessors, every one of them had throughout misunderstood the case, and this strange supposition has been made in the face of the fact, that they had better opportunity than the Judges of the High Court of ascertaining the truth or falsity of the evidence given before them. It happens at times that the Judges of the High Court take exception to particular points in the evidence given before a lower court. But strange to say that, in the present instance, their Lordships have disbelieved that evidence *in toto*; and though they had no opportunity of personally hearing the witnesses or marking their demeanour, their Lordships have no hesitation in saying that those who had that opportunity had throughout misunderstood the case.



One of the grounds on which the Judges of the High Court base their reversal of the judgment of the lower court is that Gopal Lahiri, one of the chief muktears of the zemindar, Jahnavi Choudhurani, though an important witness in the case, was not examined at all by the Sessions Judge. But if the evidence of Gopal Lahiri was really so important as their Lordships hold it to be, how is it that the Magistrate in his judgment did not so much as make the least allusion to it? And not only did the Magistrate forget to call him, but, if their Lordships are to be believed, the Sessions Judge and his two exceptionally able assessors were prevented by the bewitching art of the counsel for the prosecution from calling him! Surely it cannot be believed that there was a conspiracy between the Magistrate and the Sessions Judge not to examine this important witness. And what is still more strange than this forgetfulness of duty on the part of the Judge and the Magistrate is that the defence also forgot to examine this witness. According to the Judges of the High Court, the absence of this man as a witness was so keenly felt by the prosecution, that at a later stage of the case an attempt was made by it to call this witness, but in a way that indicated that it had really no intention to call him. But the real fact about this was not that the prosecution was unwilling to call him, but that the witness in question was actually produced in Court, and not put into the witness-box simply because the defence declined to examine him.

Again, the High Court should have carefully considered the charge of abusing and beating brought against Ram Kumar, of which the Sessions Judge, on account of doubts entertained by him in regard thereto, had acquitted him.

But instead of doing anything of the kind, the Judges of the High Court showed an inclination to differ from the finding of the Lower Court in exactly those points in which that finding was against Ram Kumar, and thereby gave a premeditated character to their own conclusions.

Their Lordships are at a loss to see why the Deputy Magistrate was called at all. But as the prosecution believed that it was the Deputy Magistrate who was at the root of the whole affair, and that the Sub-Inspector was a mere tool in his hands, can the counsel for the prosecution be blamed for taking advantage of his presence in the witness-box to question him about his doings in regard to the case?

Again, their Lordships found it impossible to believe the charges against Ram Kumar on the ground of their extraordinarily daring character. A man in Ram Kumar's position, they contend, cannot be believed to have committed the offences he is alleged to have done. Now this is precisely the way in which the prosecution also regard them. And because it cannot believe that a Sub-Inspector like Ram Kumar is capable of doing all that he has actually done, therefore it is anxious to prove that he had the secret countenance and support of the Deputy Magistrate in whatever he did, and hence the interest it has shown in examining that officer who was called as a witness by Ram Kumar to support his case.

BANGABASI,  
April 28th, 1888.

16. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's resolution on the Tangail case, the *Bangabasi*, of the 28th April, observes as follows:—

(1.) Baboo Sashi Sekhur Dutt, the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail, issued a warrant for the arrest of Janhavi Chowdhurani. In order to make light of Sashi Babu's offence, Mr. Larminie, the Commissioner of the Dacca Division, says that the Deputy Magistrate had no intention of arresting her, and that, even if she had been arrested, she would have been released on bail. The Lieutenant-Governor too has remarked that Babu Sashi Sekhur committed only an error in taking this proceeding against the lady herself. such errors are often committed by Government



officers. Mr. Beames committed a similar error. Mr. Larminie may outrage the modesty of a respectable native lady, and that too will in all probability be counted as an error. To err is human. Nana Sahib and Kuar Singh raised the standard of revolt through error. What Sir Steuart characterises as only an error on the part of Sashi Sekhur, the public regard as a very serious offence. Thousands of such resolutions of Sir Steuart will not be able to remove that impression. Certainly even the errors of Government officers should not be pardoned. A lenient treatment emboldens them to commit greater oppression.

(2.) The Lieutenant-Governor has tried to point out that the Deputy Magistrate did not show any partiality to Bindha Basini. The servants and amla of both Janhavi and Bindha Basini were equally dealt with by the Deputy Magistrate, and similar oppressions were practised on both of them. What will Sir Steuart say to the charge that although partiality was shown to no party, yet *zulum* was committed upon them both?

(3.) The Deputy Magistrate demanded so much bail from Janhavi's amla that it was impossible to produce it. The Lieutenant-Governor too has acknowledged this. But here also the Lieutenant-Governor, in order to extenuate the offence of the Deputy Magistrate, has said that he was not actuated by any malicious or revengeful motive in doing so, but he did this in good faith. Such pleading on the part of the Lieutenant-Governor does not show that he is impartial. Where an error leads to suffering, it is not error pure and simple but a sin or a crime. If Babu Sashi Sekhur had killed a lady in good faith, he would certainly have been let off by the Lieutenant-Governor. The majority of the offences committed by Government officers arise from error. Such error on the part of Government officers is the cause of the oppression of the people and of popular discontent.

(4.) Ram Kumar Chakravarti, the Sub-Inspector of Police, accompanied by 40 constables, and supported by the authority of the Deputy Magistrate, made a sort of raid into Janhavi Chowdhurani's house. The proceedings of the Sub-Inspector of Police were made the subject of a criminal charge against him. He was convicted by the Sessions Court and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. The conviction has, however, been set aside on appeal to the High Court. The Lieutenant-Governor has made no comments on the proceedings of the Sub-Inspector of Police, but the High Court has pronounced the Deputy Magistrate innocent. The public are dissatisfied with the decision of the High Court. This should be said a hundred times in the interests of truth and in the interests of Government. In order to harass Janhavi and Bindha Basini's men these were made special constables. The public cannot therefore pronounce the Deputy Magistrate innocent.

(5.) The Government resolution has defended Sashi Sekhur where it was possible; but where he has been found actually guilty, he has been pardoned on the plea that he has committed an error. The writer does not like to see such lenient treatment of a subordinate guilty of high crime. The writer wants to see both European and native officers punished for their offences. Government's prestige will not be enhanced by shielding its wicked officers. On the contrary, it will be weakened by such a course. What Sir Steuart could not defend he has described as an error on the part of the Deputy Magistrate, and thereby Sir Steuart himself has fallen into a serious error. The writer is sorry for his errors, but he is not dissatisfied with Sir Steuart for all that.

17. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 28th April, says that a memorial signed by 1,237 respectable persons of the Nilphamari sub-division has been submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor, deprecating the proposed transfer of

The proposed transfer of the Nilphamari Sub-division to Saidpore.

SANJIVANI,  
April 28th, 1888.



the Nilphamari sub-division from Nilphamari to Saidpore. It is hoped that the just Sir Steuart Bayley will grant this reasonable prayer.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
April 29th, 1888.

The Tangail case.

18. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 29th April, has the following on the Tangail case:—

Baboo Sashi Sekhur owes his rehabilitation to the efforts of his official patrons, the chief of whom is the Commissioner, Mr. Larminie. Indeed he owes his appointment as a Deputy Magistrate to Mr. Larminie's patronage. He has another patron in Mr. Glazier, the Magistrate, who has rendered him valuable assistance in the Tangail case. Supporting his subordinates is a principal trait of Mr. Glazier's character. Indeed oppressive officials like him always try to keep their subordinates in good humour. Baboo Sashi Sekhur's third patron is Mr. Veasey, Inspector-General of Police. Whenever the power and the prestige of the police are in danger, this functionary naturally steps in and tries to retrieve the name of his department. He found that the judgment of the Sessions Judge went against the police, and in his anxiety to save his man Ram Kumar, he became indirectly a patron of Sasisekhar; and where there are so many Europeans concerned, the support of the *Englishman*, the *Pioneer*, and the whole lot of them may be expected as a matter of course. When there is such a clique to back up a man, the High Court and Sir Steuart Bayley may be well deemed powerless to bring him to justice. An omniscient God and no mere human agency can bring about that result. But though the High Court, and the Government hold Sashi Sekhur and Ram Kumar innocent, the public will not. It is, however, to be regretted that by absolving Baboo Sasisekhar, Government has brought the English rule in this country into disrepute.

(d)—Education.

PRAJA BANDHU,  
April 27th, 1888.

19. The *Prajā Bandhu*, of the 27th April, says that some time ago

A Hindoo teacher in the Bethune School.

some of the guardians of the Brahmo girls reading in the Bethune School objected to the appointment of a Hindu teacher in that school, saying that a man whose religious belief differs from that of his pupils ought not to be appointed as their teacher. It is not known how Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee, the Secretary to the institution, to whom the objection was preferred, has decided the question. But it appears from the annual report of that school that Hindu girls form the majority of the pupils reading in that school. If so, the Brahmos have no right to object to the appointment of a Hindu teacher in that school.

BANGABASI,  
April 28th, 1888.

20. The *Bangabāsi*, of the 28th April, says that the examinations

The Calcutta University.

of the Calcutta University were held long ago, but the results have not yet been published. Will the result of the Entrance Examination be published even in May? Why so much delay in publishing the results of the F.A. and B.A. Examinations? The writer is sorry to hear a rumour that the University authorities have asked some of the examiners in the Entrance Examination, who are supposed to have shown leniency to the candidates, to re-examine the papers with more strictness, and to reduce the marks already allotted to them. This is simply disgraceful.

BANGABASI.

21. The same paper, of the 28th April, says that native officers should

Selection of text-books by the Inspectors of Schools.

so conduct themselves in the discharge of their public duties that no one may find fault with them. They should be guided only by a sense of duty, and should not be misled by self-interest



or flattery. The writer objects to the selection of text-books by the Inspectors of Schools. These officers write text-books, and introduce them into the schools within their own jurisdiction. Nor is there much difficulty in getting them introduced in other circles. Thus Radhika Prasanna's books are introduced into the Dacca Circle, and Dina Nath Sen's books into the Presidency Circle. Brahma Mohan selects the works of both as text-books for his circle, and Brahma Mohun's works are introduced in the Dacca and Presidency Circles. Where there is no such expectation of being served in return, Inspectors are often found to help a brother officer out of considerations of delicacy. Thus independent authors do not find encouragement at the hands of these Inspectors of Schools. Many do not stoop to flatter, while those that do so do not gain their end on account of the interest which the Inspectors take in the selection of their own books. Of the books selected as text-books for the Presidency Circle there are seven or eight in which the Inspector of that Circle has a direct interest. But they are not the best books of their kind. All Inspectors are not Newtons, nor are the books they write as valuable as the *Principia*. Brahma Mohan's edition of Geometry is not the result of any extraordinary learning. Other equally good editions of Geometry are read in the Eastern Circle. There is nothing superlatively excellent in Dina Nath Sen's Bhugal or Manasanka.

The writer wishes to see independent authors encouraged. He has no faith in the Text-book Committee. There are only one or two independent members in that Committee: the rest are worthless men, and given to favouritism. Moreover, the duty of the Text-book Committee is only to declare whether or not a book is suited for school use, but the power of selecting text-books for actual use has been vested in the Inspectors of Schools. The existing practice is bringing disgrace on the Education Department, and making respectable men more and more unwilling to write school-books. The precedent of Baboo Bhudeb Mukhirji and Vidya-sagar will not hold good in these days. The Inspectors of Schools should not be permitted to select text-books.

22. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 29th April, says that, in view of the importance which the *Sarasvata Samaj* of Dacca has attained of late, in consequence of

The Dacca Sarasvata Samaj.

the Sanskrit examinations that are held year after year under its auspices, the Government grant of Rs. 500 annually given to it must be deemed inadequate. When the gurus of pathshalas are allowed by Government rewards of Rs. 25 to 30 annually for teaching such books as *Bodhodaya*, there is no reason why the Professors of Sanskrit literature should not get more than Rs. 5 or 7, the annual allowance at present granted to them. The low remuneration of these Professors of Sanskrit is discreditable to the Education Department of Bengal.

23. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 30th April, says that, though it is pretended that the new proposal for holding the University Examinations in February has

The University Examinations.

been made in the interest of the scholars, one cannot help suspecting that the convenience of the professors has been principally consulted in this matter. The writer is of opinion that the best time for the examinations will be September or October, before the pujah. If the examinations be over before the pujah, a long vacation and school work during the winter will be both possible. The writer does not think that the objections urged by Sir Alfred Croft against holding the University Examinations every six months are strong. The supplementary B. A. Examination held some time ago clearly showed that half-yearly examinations would be very advantageous to plucked students.

24. The *Dainik and Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 1st May, objects to the way in which text-books for schools are selected in this country. As the work of selection

Selection of text-books.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
April 29th, 1888.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
April 30th, 1888.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
April 25th, 1888.



ultimately rests with the Inspectors of Schools, who generally take good care to select their own and their friends' books first, it often happens that independent authors of school-books are left in the dark. To give one instance of this. There are three Bengali Inspectors of Schools in this province, every one of whom has written school-books. Is it to be expected that they will give preference to other people's books to their own? No less than eight books by the Inspector of the Presidency Circle are used as text-books in schools in that Circle; and a similar remark may be made with respect to books written by the other two. This objectionable system should be put an end to as being destructive of the principle of impartiality in the selection of text-books. The matter has become quite scandalous, and the Director of Public Instruction should have his attention directed to it. Let him put an end to the practice of book-making amongst the Inspectors of Schools, and the scandal will disappear.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal administration.*

ANIS,  
April 9th, 1888.

25. The *Anis*, of the 9th April, praises Sir Steuart Bayley for issuing the Municipal Circular. The proposed course is calculated to do immense good to the cause of Local Self-Government.

SANSODHINI,  
April 20th, 1888.

26. The *Sansodhini*, of the 20th April, says that the Chittagong District Board farmed out the Mangal Khil cattle-pound to the highest bidder some time ago. The auction-purchaser has paid the amount of his bid to the Board, but the tea-planter, Mr. Darling, has not given him possession of the pound. The farmer of the cattle-pound reported the matter to the Chairman of the District Board, who has referred the matter to the next meeting of the Board. Why was not Mr. Darling criminally prosecuted for his illegal conduct? Who will make good the loss which the auction-purchaser will suffer on account of the delay in getting possession of the cattle-pound? This shows that anarchy reigns supreme in Chittagong.

CHARUVARTA,  
April 24th, 1888.

27. The *Charuvarta*, of the 24th April, says that the want of filtered water is much felt by the people of Mymensingh. Opinions differ as to whether Raja Surya Kanta Acharyay's gift should be applied to the purpose of supplying the town of Mymensingh with filtered water or of lighting the town with gas. In either case Rs. 50,000 will be expended. But who will bear the cost of maintaining either of these works? Certainly money will be raised from the people by the imposition of a tax. If a tax is imposed on the supply of filtered water, people will gladly pay it. But they will object to pay a lighting-tax, and the Municipality will in that case have to bear the entire cost of the maintenance of gas works.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
April 24th 1888.

28. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 24th April, thus reviews the budget of the Burdwan Municipality for the current municipal year, commencing on the 1st April last:—

In the budget, the estimated municipal revenue for the year has been set down at Rs. 37,400. Deducting from this sum Rs. 4,000 as being the amount of the unrealised municipal revenue of the last year, Rs. 33,400 represents the amount to be raised by municipal taxation during the current year. This is surprising and naturally gives rise to the following reflections:—

1.—When the house-rate was 7 per cent, the income from this source was 37 to 40 thousand rupees; and as that rate has been raised to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., the revenue from this



source ought to be not 33 or 34 thousand rupees as estimated in the budget, but something between 35 and 36 thousand rupees.

2.—The income from cart registration was formerly 12 to 14 hundred rupees; and how is it that although carts have now considerably increased in number, the revenue from this source is set down in the new budget at so low a figure as Rs. 1,000.

3.—Similar remarks might be made regarding the buget estimates of the incomes from the wheel tax, the administration of pounds and the ferries.

4.—The reduction of the water-rate from 6 to 4½ per cent. is objectionable, when it is considered that even the old higher rate failed to meet the cost of water-supply in the town. Instead of reducing the water-rate, the house-tax ought to have been lowered by ½ per cent. It is hoped that the matter will receive the attention of the Magistrate and the Commissioner.

5.—As the palki-bearers often exact exorbitant hire, the Municipality ought to have taken steps to compel these men to take out licenses.

29. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 25th April, says that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of such Local Boards as do not possess a large income should not be allowed to draw travelling allowance from the funds of those Boards.

The granting of travelling allowances to the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of Local Boards.

HINDU RANJIKA,  
April 25th, 1888.

30. The *Grāmvāsi*, of the 26th April, complains of mismanagement in connection with the administration of cattle-pounds in Uluberia. These pounds are absolutely wanting in accommodation for cattle, which are often half fed when impounded. The keepers encourage drunkards and other bad characters to secure cattle for these pounds, exact illegal fines from the persons who claim impounded cattle, withhold receipts from those persons and often give one man's cattle to another. It is also feared that these men do not keep proper accounts of their receipts and disbursements. The President of the Local Board of Uluberia should look to the matter.

Cattle-pounds in Uluberia.

SANJIVANI,  
April 26th, 1888.

31. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 27th April, says that the Commissioners of the Berhampore Municipality are going to sink wells by the side of the principal roads in Berhampore and Khagra for the purpose of watering the streets. The writer thinks that these wells will not serve the purpose for which they are going to be dug, and only a lot of municipal money will be wasted. When big tanks dry up in the summer, it is hardly to be expected that these wells will contain sufficient water in that season for watering the streets.

The Berhampore Municipality.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI,  
April 27th, 1888.

32. Referring to Sir Steuart Bayley's Municipal Circular, the *Pratikar* of the 27th April, says that some Commissioners of the Berhampore Municipality are opposed to it. Those alone who have no chance of being elected as Municipal Commissioners by the people can have any objection to the introduction of such a good measure.

Sir Steuart Bayley's Municipal Circular.

PRATIKAR,  
April 27th, 1888.

33. The *Som Prakash*, of the 30th April, complains of dust in Sanker Ghose's Lane, Calcutta, and is sorry that it is not watered by the Municipality. The Commissioner of the Ward in which the lane is situated is asked to bring the matter to the notice of the Municipality.

Dust in Sanker Ghose's Lane, Calcutta.

SOM PRAKASH,  
April 30th, 1888.



SOM PRAKASH,  
April 30th, 1888.

34. A correspondent of the same paper says that, owing to sheer mismanagement, sanitary arrangements in the Santipore Municipality are extremely defective. Its roads are dirty and abound in all sorts of refuse matter.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

ANIS,  
April 16th, 1888.

35. The *Anis*, of the 16th April, complains of mismanagement in the Gya State Railway. The authorities are requested to remove the inconveniences to which the pilgrims are now put on this line.

SAHACHAR,  
April 25th, 1888.

36. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th April, says that the third class railway passengers suffer many inconveniences in the Eastern Bengal Railway. Will nothing be done to promote their comforts?

SURABHI & PATAKA,  
April 26th, 1888.

37. The *Surabhi and Pataká*, of the 26th April, learns from a correspondent that from Begra to Tribeni the channel of the Sarasvati contains little or no water at all. Notwithstanding that, the Magistrate of Hooghly says, in reply to a petition submitted to him on the subject, that water was re-admitted into the Eden Canal on the 18th March, and that the river Sarasvati was since then receiving its full supply. On Sunday last the Magistrate, accompanied by the District Superintendent of Police, went to visit the river. The Magistrate crossed the river on horseback, and arriving at the opposite bank asked a shopkeeper whether water had been admitted into the river. The shopkeeper saw that one-half of the horse's hoofs had got wet, and so he had not the courage to tell the Magistrate that water had not come. Besides two applications complaining of scarcity of water in consequence of the drying up of the channel of the Sarasvati, the Magistrate received a third, asking him to prohibit cultivators to take the water which collects in the hollows in the bed of the river for the purpose of irrigating their fields. In reply to this third application the Magistrate wrote that "the matter was reported to Government by the Commissioner last year, and is still under consideration." Yes, scarcity of water was first felt in the month of February last, and though April is now passing away, not only is nothing done to remove it, but the matter is stated to be still under consideration!

SOM PRAKASH,  
April 30th, 1888.

38. The *Som Prakash*, of the 30th April, complains of (1) exorbitant hire charged by coolies on the Eastern Bengal Railway, and remarks that this is owing simply to the exclusion by the Railway authorities of ordinary coolies from the railway stations. But do all those coolies who are allowed to work on the railway stations take out licenses from the Railway Company? And is it on this account that they do not hesitate to extort illegal hire from the passengers? If this be so, the Railway Company should have paid coolies of their own and meet the cost on account of their salaries by levying a rate on the luggage of passengers.

2. Absence of suitable accommodation for women in intermediate class carriages is now much felt. The women's compartments in these carriages are not properly covered. The Company should look to the matter.

3. The practice of locking up the carriages should be dispensed with as being unnecessary. As the tickets are now examined after the passengers have alighted from their carriages and left them behind at some distance in the station, the locking does not serve the purpose of ascertaining the class of carriage in which a particular passenger has been travelling.



## (h)—General.

39. The *Anis*, of the 9th April, thanks Sir Steuart Bayley for issuing orders to close all Government offices on the occasion of the Mahomedan festivals. But His Honour has apparently forgotten to include the Shub-e-Barat festival in the list of holidays. It is hoped that this will now be done.

Mahomedan holidays.

ANIS,  
April 9th, 1888.

40. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 24th April, does not know how to thank Sir Steuart Bayley sufficiently for his recent Resolution on the Jamalpore *mela* affair.

The Government Resolution on the Jamalpore *mela* affair.

CHARUVARTA,  
April 24th, 1888.

41. The same paper says that the public verdict and the verdict of the Lieutenant-Governor was the same in the Jamalpore case. But in the Tangail case the people do not concur in the verdict of the High Court and of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Tangail case.

CHARUVARTA.

42. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 25th April, says that Mr. Ruddock, the Magistrate of Rajshahye, was not so hard-working, watchful and just an officer as a District Magistrate should be. During the period he has been in charge of the district the police have become inefficient and inert. They will not come to their senses until a strong man is appointed as District Magistrate in the place of Mr. Ruddock.

Mr. Ruddock, Magistrate of Rajshahye.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,  
April 25th, 1888.

43. The *Pratikár*, of the 27th April, says that the people of this country enjoyed some happiness during the earlier years of English rule. But they now view with alarm that the policy of British rule in India has changed, and that Rani Bhowani's prophecy, that in substituting British rule for Mussulman rule natives were only establishing one form of slavery in place of another, is being fulfilled.

The English and the Mahomedan rule compared.

PRATIKAR,  
April 27th, 1888.

It is true that the people suffered many inconveniences under the Mahomedan rule, but their sufferings were not so intolerable as at the present time. Hypocrisy was unknown to the Mahomedan rulers; they oppressed the people openly, and were not mean enough to act as cut-throats with friendly professions on their lips. They were incapable of the worst forms of meanness. They did not stoop to take anything out of the contents of the beggar's srip or of the petty earnings of the labourer.

It is true that people did not enjoy immunity from insult in those days. But what historian shall say that instances of insulting men of position and of dishonouring the sex were more numerous then they are at present? Now petty English officers commit greater oppression than what the Emperor himself would have ventured to do under the Mahomedan rule. There is no one to put a stop to this official high-handedness. This is what leads Indians to ask whether Queen Victoria alone or all Englishmen, high or low, are the real rulers of India, and whether India is the sporting ground of the whole English people.

44. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 28th April, says that the Bagnan outstill yet continues to occupy its former site in the local bazar which is very close to the local school and the bathing ghát. When the outstill was sold to the highest bidder in March last, Baboo Ganendra Nath Pal, the Deputy Collector, told the brewers that they would not be permitted to sell liquor at so objectionable a place. But the brewers have not paid heed to his warning. The respectable inhabitants of Bagnan should represent the matter to Ganendra Baboo.

The outstill at Bagnan in Howrah.

SANJIVANI,  
April 29th, 1888.



SANJIVANI  
April 28th, 1888.

45. A correspondent of the same paper complains that the Munshibazar School is greatly deteriorating on account of the existence of the local outstill.

The outstill at Munshibazar.

A foul smell issues from the outstill and spreads to the bazar and the local school. The teachers have on many occasions found it necessary to close the school on this account. Many attempts have been made to remove the outstill from its present site, but to no purpose. The authorities are requested to remove it to some place far away from the local school.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
April 30th, 1888.

Vacant Judgeships in the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

46. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 30th April, is glad that Mr. Abul Hussen, who was officiating as Fifth Judge and Registrar of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, has been confirmed in that post. Though he does not possess the ability and experience of his predecessor, Baboo Rajkrishna Sen, he will become an able Judge by serving as Registrar for some years. As the decisions of the Calcutta Small Cause Court are summary and final, it is necessary that only judicial officers possessed of large experience should be appointed Judges of that Court. It will be well therefore if a member of the Subordinate Judicial Service is appointed in the place of the late Baboo Srinath Roy. It will be very unjust to deprive the hardworking members of that service of a deserved and much-coveted promotion to a prize post. Mr. K. M. Chatterjee, who is now officiating for Baboo Srinath Roy, is a learned man, and deserves a far higher post. He deserves to be appointed Secretary to the Legislative Council. Nothing wrong will therefore be done if he is not appointed to the vacant judgeship in the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI

47. The same paper says that it is simply mean on the part of Government to enquire whether a small

The keeping of opium by cultivators.

fraction of the quantity of opium manufactured by native cultivators is kept for their own use and to adopt means for preventing such use of opium by them.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI

48. The same paper refers to the belief, shared by many, that Government did not appoint any one to officiate for Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter simply to avoid appointing a native to act for him. It should not, however, be believed that Government is capable of such meanness. Government would, however, have done well if it had appointed a Native officiating Judge to the High Court.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
May 3rd, 1888.

49. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 3rd May, says that the Director-General of the Post Office has this year left behind him at Calcutta more than half of his office establishment. This arrangement will result in a monthly saving of two thousand rupees. It will be well if other Heads of Departments, who can not make up their mind to give up the practice of going to the hills, follow this example.

The Simla exodus.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,  
April 26th, 1888.

50. The *Samvad Prabhakar*, of the 26th April, says that a most objectionable provision of the Municipal Bill has been passed. Section 235 of the Bill provides

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

that the owner of any land will not be able to erect a building thereon without the permission of the Municipal officers. The Bill does not also state how much land owners will have to keep open in front of lanes. It provides that these matters will be settled by the Municipality itself. This is very bad. The Bill does indeed allow appeals in such cases. But everybody knows that such appeals entail fearful inconvenience upon those who make them and promote bribery. The opinions of the rate-payers are being utterly and systematically disregarded in the debate on



this Bill, and Sir Henry Harrison is having it all his own way in the matter. It is a matter of regret that Sir Steuart Bayley does not see that the people of Calcutta are greatly dissatisfied with this Bill, and that he will earn disgrace for himself by passing it.

51. The *Samaya*, of the 27th April, takes exception to Sir Steuart Bayley's reply to the deputation of the Calcutta rate-payers, taxing them with delay in submitting their objections against the new Municipal Bill, and remarks that, so far from its being true that there were no timely protests against the provisions of the new Bill, a meeting was held at the Town Hall as early as 1885 to protest against the amalgamation scheme and various other matters contained in the new Bill, and that after this meeting at the Town Hall the British Indian Association sent three, and the Indian Association two, memorials to Government protesting against the provisions of the Bill. Thus it will be seen that Sir Steuart's complaint on the score of delay is wholly groundless. It is hoped that His Honour, who is regarded by the people as their friend, will ask the Bengal Council to grant the prayer of the Calcutta memorialists.

SAMAYA,  
April 27th, 1888.

Sir Steuart Bayley and the deputation of the Calcutta rate-payers.

52. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 30th April, says that the promoters of the Town Hall meeting to protest against the Municipal Bill did not do well to conduct its proceedings in English, considering that the Bill will affect the uneducated as well as the educated. Now that there is yet time, the objectionable provisions of the Bill should be translated into Bengali for the information of the poor and uneducated rate-payers who will be most affected by it, and meetings should be held in every ward, at which the speakers should point out the mischievous character of the Bill in Bengali. After this another meeting should be held at the Town Hall, and a petition should be submitted to Government protesting against the Bill.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
April 30th, 1888.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

Even granting that Sir Henry Harrison and the Members of the Bengal Council have framed the Bill with the best of intentions, there can be no doubt that those provisions of the Bill which vest the Police and Municipal officers with enlarged powers will be used as engines of oppression. Thus people will be compelled to satisfy those officers with bribes. The provisions of the Bill will not produce the good effect which they are expected to produce.

53. The *Som Prakash*, of the 30th April, says that nothing can be more objectionable than the provisions of section 20 of the new Municipal Bill which empower a Magistrate to separate and expel members of a household under the plea of overcrowding. What is a poor man, who has a numerous family, to do under the circumstances? If the new Bill passes, the inconveniences of the people will know no bounds, and many poor householders of Calcutta will be deprived of the pleasure of putting up together and eating their humble meals with their family. The people of Calcutta will be glad to remain where they are, and have no desire to purchase better sanitation at such enormous sacrifice as the new Bill requires them to make.

SOM PRAKASH,  
April, 30th, 1888.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

54. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 30th April, says that the main object of the Calcutta Municipal Bill is to curb the power of the Native Commissioners. The Bill as amended by the Select Committee will do endless mischief to the rate-payers. The rate-payers objected to the construction of a central road from the Hooghly Bridge to the Sealdah Station, and the purchasing of more land than what was required for the road was considered illegal. But the Select Committee has introduced a section in the Bill, legalising such action on the part of the Municipality. This is highly improper.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,  
April 30th, 1888.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.



## IV.—NATIVE STATES.

URDU GUIDE,  
April 20th, 1888.

55. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 20th April, says that the certificate given by Lord Dufferin to Sir Lepel Griffin will not satisfy the public. It will make the weakness of his position all the more apparent. It is popularly believed that the Government is afraid to bring a criminal charge against the *Amrita Bazar Patriká*, and so it has tried to hush up the Bhopal scandals by granting a certificate to Sir Lepel. Government has not done well in supporting Sir Lepel in all his highbanded acts. This will only produce discontent amongst the Native Princes. Government has failed to do its duty as a ruler by not punishing one of its wicked officers.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,  
April 25th, 1888.

56. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 25th April, says that on the occasion of the Viceroy's visit to Rewa, Najafali Beg, who has no knowledge of English, was selected by the Political Agent to represent the grievances of the Dowager Maharani of Rewa to His Excellency. But the Viceroy and Najafali were unable to understand each other. So it was settled that the conversation should be carried on through an interpreter. This is exactly what was desired by the enemies of the Maharani. The interpreter selected for the purpose was no other than Major Barr, who is an avowed enemy of the Maharani. There can be no doubt that he misinterpreted the statements of Najafali to the Viceroy.

While the Viceroy was at Rewa, one day a large number of men assembled to represent their grievances to him. When their clamour attracted the notice of the Viceroy he asked the Political Agent what all that meant. But he was furnished with the ready answer that they had come to thank him for the innumerable benefits conferred on them by the British Government. It is popularly believed in Rewa that the Viceroy will do justice to the Maharani. The Maharani too is indulging in such hopes in her humble cottage at Nowgaon. The writer also hopes that the Viceroy will reward the just and punish the wicked.

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

57. Referring to the dismissal of Abdul Huq, the late Home Secretary to the Nizam's Government, on serious charges, the same paper says that many high officials are implicated in the offences committed by him, and that there is little hope of a proper enquiry.

SAHACHAR,  
April 25th, 1888.

58. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th April, is at a loss to see why the Maharaja of Cashmere has appointed a Commission to enquire into the charges brought against his ex-Dewan, Luchman Das. For, as the Maharaja has himself dismissed Luchman Das, there can be no reasonable doubt in his mind about the Dewan's guilt. If so, is the appointment of the Commission due to a suggestion from the Resident?

SAHACHAR

59. The same paper says that the news of Sir Rughunath Rao's resignation comes close upon Mr. Durand's visit to Indore. Is there any connection between the two events? Is Indore also like Bhopal going to have an English Minister?

SURABHI & PATÁKÁ,  
April 26th, 1888.

60. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 26th April, referring to the recent scandals in Hyderabad, says that it will not be enough if Abdul Huq alone is punished. Hyderabad affairs require a thorough overhauling in Parliament. To bring about this result, it is necessary that Mr. Cordery, Colonel Marshall, Sir John Gorst, and one or two members of the India Council should be put into the witness-box. And unless the enquiry into the Hyderabad scandals is conducted in this thorough-going manner,



history will for ever hold Englishmen responsible for the maladministration of Hyderabad.

61. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 26th April, referring to the Viceroy's visit to Rewa, says that the Viceroy ought to have appointed a disinterested person to act as the interpreter between Najafali and himself.

BHARAT MITRA  
April 26th, 1888.

62. The *Pratikār*, of the 27th April, says that the Dowager Maharani of Rewa was grossly insulted and ill-treated by Sir Lepel Griffin. She complained of this to Lord Dufferin, and it was expected that His Excellency would do her justice when he paid his visit to Rewa. But Lord Dufferin has done nothing to help the Maharani. When in Rewa His Lordship spent his time in shooting tigers, and he has by his proceedings at Rewa only wounded the feelings of the Maharani. The Maharani's misery has increased on account of the haughty treatment she has received at the hands of the Viceroy. The Maharani came to the Sutna Railway Station to pay a visit to the Viceroy; but the Private Secretary to the Viceroy told her that an interview could not be granted to her as the Viceroy was asleep at that time. The Viceroy left that place shortly after this, and the Maharani returned to her humble retreat with a heavy heart. Government officials do not show due respect or consideration to respectable persons in this country. It gives the writer great pain to contemplate that the Viceroy did not show the least consideration for the wife of a faithful ally. The Maharani's heart has been broken by the want of attention which has been shown to her. Lord Dufferin might have been asleep at the time; but the Private Secretary should have shown due respect to her. Lord Dufferin is therefore guilty of showing wilful neglect towards the Dowager Maharani of Rewa.

PRATIKAR,  
April 27th, 1888.

63. The *Prajā Bandhu*, of the 27th April, says that the *Reis and Rayyet* does not like the *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* disclosures regarding Sir Lepel Griffin, and is therefore trying to make out that the *Amrita Bazar* is a partisan of Sadik Hossein and his men; but it is well known that in bringing Sir Lepel's doings in Bhopal to light, the *Amrita Bazar* has throughout acted from the purest of motives. And the man who can accuse it of interested partisanship is the worst of his kind. The *Reis and Rayyet's* strictures against the *Patrika* proceed from spite, pure and simple.

PRAJA BANDHU,  
April 27th, 1888.

64. Referring to the fall of Abdul Huq, the *Bangabāsi*, of the 28th April, hopes that all his intrigues will now be brought to light. But there is a great difficulty in the way. It is rumoured that many high English officials are implicated in the matter, and that therefore there is little hope of justice being done. People have confidence in Mr. Howell, the new Resident of Hyderabad, and high respect for the new Minister, Asman Jah, and it is hoped that they will do justice in this case.

BANGABASI,  
April 28th, 1888.

65. The same paper says that people have become greatly dissatisfied with Lord Dufferin for granting a certificate of confidence to Sir Lepel Griffin. The people are of opinion that after this anarchy will reign supreme in the land. Every Government officer, high or low, will be emboldened to act in a high-handed manner, and the oppression of the people will know no bounds. How can it be said that the people's fears are groundless?

BANGABASI.

66. The *Aryāvarta*, of the 28th April, says that the Viceroy's visit to Rewa has done no good to the Dowager Maharani or to the people of that State. A large number of people assembled to represent their grievances to the

ARYAVARTA,  
April 28th, 1888.



Viceroy; but they were not allowed to speak to His Excellency. One Najafali was appointed to represent the grievances of the Maharani; but Najafali being ignorant of the English language could not speak with the Viceroy, and an interpreter was therefore appointed by the Political officers who misrepresented what Najafali said. This is very much to be regretted. The Maharani selected one English-knowing Hindu gentleman for the purpose, but he was not allowed to speak to the Viceroy.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
April 30th, 1888.

67. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 30th April, disapproves of the recent writings in the *Statesman* against Holkar. Such writings often produce great mischief by affording to those Englishmen who are hostile to Native Princes a pretext for demanding a curtailment of their powers. If Holkar had been fortunate in having a minister like Sir Salar Jung, the *Statesman* could never have written against him in the way it has done. Holkar's Prime Minister, Raghunath Rao, has resigned. But the reason of his resignation is not known. Raghunath Rao enjoys great reputation among Englishmen; but the writer cannot consider him to be a sound statesman, who, like Raghunath Rao, seeks to introduce social reforms by means of compulsory legislation. The writer fears that it is this tendency of his which has compelled him to resign.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
April 30th, 1888.

68. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 30th April, is astonished at the reply given by Sir John Gorst to Mr. Labouchere's motion for a Parliamentary enquiry into the Hyderabad mining scandals. His reply was that Her Majesty's Government cannot interfere with the internal administration of Hyderabad, but if His Highness the Nizam asks for an enquiry the fullest assistance will be given to him. Surely Her Majesty's Government cannot interfere when the fraud practised on a Mohammedan Chief of India by an English Company in concert with one of his Mohammedan officials has to be discovered, but it can and it does as a matter of fact interfere when a Native Chief is to be deposed and his State has to be annexed. And are not the Political officers of Government interfering everywhere with the internal administration of the Native States in India? Are not the Begum of Bhopal, the Holkar, and the Sindia, and the Maharajah of Cashmere, even now at the mercy of the Political officers of Government? Sir John Gorst's words are in fact calculated to excite suspicion in the public mind here. For everybody knows that he came out to India some time ago as an advocate of Abdul Huq. Does he want to save Mr. Cordery and Colonel Marshall? And is he opposing Mr. Labouchere's motion for that reason? It behoves Lord Dufferin not to remain silent at this juncture, for the appointment of a Parliamentary Committee of Enquiry will greatly facilitate his task of putting the Hyderabad administration on a satisfactory footing, and checking the spoliation that has been going on there for years together.

SOM PRAKASH,  
April 30th, 1888.

69. The *Som Prakash*, of the 30th April, complains of mismanagement and oppression in the Tributary Mehals of Orissa, and especially in the Gurjats, and thinks that the native manager of those mehals should be removed, and an able Deputy Magistrate appointed in his place. Not one of the states comprised in those mehals has a really able man at its head; and it is the Assistant Commissioner who reigns supreme there.

SOM PRAKASH.

70. The same paper, referring to the recent scandals in Hyderabad, thus delivers itself:—No one knows when the present Residency system will be put an end to. So long as this system exists, the Native States of India have no chance or hope left. The Residents have never been known to do good to the States to which they were accredited. They are a set of oppressors, and that is the name by which they are known.



## V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

71. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 24th April, complains of the prevalence of cholera of a virulent type in the villages within the jurisdiction of the Kendua station of the Netrokona sub-division of the Mymensingh district. This outbreak is attributed to the use of foul and muddy water by the inhabitants of 20 or 21 villages. The authorities are requested to look to the matter.

CHÁRUVARTÁ,  
April 24th, 1888.

72. The *Pratikár*, of the 27th April, says that the people cannot possibly live if Government does not help them in their distress caused by a Providential visitation. Mr. Glazier, the Magistrate of Pubna, said, in reply to the petition of the distressed people of Pubna for help, that Government assistance cannot be given on an occasion like that. If Government assistance is not to be given on such an occasion, at what other time should it be given?

PRATIKAR,  
April 27th, 1888.

73. The same paper says that reports have been received regarding the existence of scarcity in Orissa and Manbhoom. Is not the Government bound to assist the people in times of distress? The famine fund has been expended for other purposes than the relief of distress. Will then the people die of starvation?

PRATIKAR.

74. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 28th April, says that between January and April last 476 persons died of cholera alone in thanas Jaldhaka, Dimla and Nilphamari of the Nilphamari sub-division. The mortality from other diseases also is very high. It is not known why the Government has not yet sent medical aid to Nilphamari.

SANJIVANI,  
April 28th, 1888.

75. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 28th April, says that there was no rain at Sariakandi, Panchgatchi, in Bogra last year. The *rabi* crops failed on account of the drought. The *aus* paddy and jute crops could not be grown for want of grain. The jute and kaun plants grown on low grounds are also withering for the same cause. The cultivators are in great distress.

BANGABASI,  
April 28th, 1888.

## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

76. The *Sansodhini*, of the 20th April, says that a man attacked with cholera was found lying on the roadside at Dewanbazar in Chittagong. A gentleman reported the matter to the Civil Surgeon, who took no notice of it, and got angry with the informer. The matter was next reported to the thana, and the police was requested to convey the sick man to the hospital in a cart, and cart-hire was also offered; but the people in the thana took no action in the matter, and told the gentleman that, as Dewanbazar was within the beat of the constable of the chowk, he should go to that constable. But no policeman was found there. The thana people sent intimation to the constable of the Dewanbazar beat, and he made his appearance. Before his arrival some gentlemen of the locality had conveyed the poor man to the hospital. It may be mentioned that the thana lies at a distance of 100 yards from the spot where the poor man was lying, the police beat is about 100 yards to the north of the spot, and the cart-stand lies only at a distance of 10 yards from it. Are not the policemen of the thana guilty of neglect of duty? The poor man died yesterday in hospital. It is a pity that a man suffering from cholera had been lying in one of the principal roads of the Chittagong town, and yet no one took any notice of him. One shudders to think of this!

SANSODHINI,  
April 23th, 1888.

The Civil Surgeon of Chittagong  
and the Chittagong Police.



SANBODHINI,  
April 28th, 1888.

77. A correspondent of the same paper says, in reference to the charges made against Mr. Browne, the manager of the Sankha tea-garden in Chittagong (see Weekly Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 21st April 1888, paragraph 56), that Mr. Browne is a very good man, and that the coolies in his garden are a very refractory set of people.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
April 24th, 1888.

78. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 24th April, says that the prevailing low price of sugar in India has stimulated the exportation of that article from this country. Now, it is clearly the interest of the cultivators in this country to keep up this low rate; and to enable them to do this, it is necessary that they should be provided with capital, good cuttings of sugarcane and good manure. Government if so disposed can easily supply them with these necessities, and thereby place a permanent source of gain within their reach. But though always ready to tax the people to the uttermost degree, Government is apparently indifferent in devising means by which their capacity for meeting its incessant demands may be increased.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

79. A correspondent of the same paper has the following on the subject of reconstructing the Jankuli embankment:—

The Jankuli embankment.

1. Jankuli being situated on a bend of the river Damudar is exposed to a strong current; and unless an embankment is constructed there, there is chance of the river gradually encroaching on land and overrunning large tracts of country. That Government itself admitted this is evident from the following extract from the letter which the Chief Engineer to Government wrote at the time when portions of the embankments of the river were destroyed:—

“Only embankments parallel to the stream were demolished, the portions in front of marginal villages, or which were exposed to the current at the corner of the river, or where the bank was low or of loose formation, were not removed, and in some instance were strengthened and put in order.”

Thus it is clear that the embankment at Jankuli is absolutely necessary for the purpose of protecting villages there from the encroachment of the river.

2. Now the question is whether it is possible to reconstruct the embankment.

In 1881, when the first breach in the embankment occurred, the people applied to Mr. Phillips, the then Collector of Burdwan, to get the breach repaired. In reply, the Collector wrote that “the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department, was willing to close it (breach) if the zemindars, whose estates are likely to be benefited by the work, were willing to pay the cost, which was estimated at Rs. 4,710 (*vide* letter No. 7439, Burdwan Collectorate, dated the 22nd February 1882, to Baboo Bykantnath Chatterjee, Srikrishnapur). Now, the Collector would not surely have written in the way he did if the Engineering authorities had looked upon the closing of the breach as impracticable.

Again, the very fact that the embankment in question was so long maintained by the Government, zemindars, and the talukdars shows how easy it is to maintain it.

If, then, an embankment is indispensable and can be easily maintained, and if its reconstruction is no very difficult affair, how, it may be asked, came it to pass that in 1884 Government passed an order prohibiting the closing of the breach in the embankment? The answer to this question is that probably there was in 1884 a Bengali Engineer in charge of the Damudar division; and he, without paying much heed to what his predecessors had said on the subject, took it into his head to give to Government



the novel advice—the suggestion no doubt of his own indolence—that the closing of the breach was impracticable.

The breach in the embankment has thus been allowed to exist for years, and the mischief to the people has been immense. The writer only hopes that the Queen-Empress of India, who, according to her own admission recently made, is ready to make any sacrifice for the benefit of Her Indian subjects, will ultimately have her notice attracted to the matter. He will, moreover, be obliged if Government will furnish him with the copies of the reports written by the officers, both Native and European, alluded to in the article on the subject of the Damodar embankment.

80. The *Garib*, of the 25th April, learns that the Dacca Relief Committee have decided to devote a portion of the fund at their disposal to the construction of the Dacca Medical School building. In making their donations, the contributors to the fund had in view only the relief of the distressed people, and the money should not therefore be expended for any other purpose. The opinion of the donors should be consulted in the matter.

The Dacca Relief Fund.

GARIB,  
April 25th, 1888.

81. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th April, says that two meetings in favour of the Congress movement and under the presidency of educated Mahomedan gentlemen were recently held at Lucknow and Cawnpore respectively, and that at one of them, namely, that at Lucknow, Mr. Brownrigg, the Magistrate, was present, and at both the audience consisted chiefly of Mahomedan gentlemen of birth and respectability. These meetings, it is observed, indicate a change of public opinion in connection with the Congress movement. Sir Syud Ahmed, though he has committed a grave error by condemning the Congress movement, cannot yet be said to have forfeited the respect due to him for his various good acts, and it is hoped that he will no longer permit himself to be influenced by the evil counsels of Anglo-Indians, and will bear in mind that the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer*, who are now so ready to laud him to the skies, are precisely those who hate him secretly. Let him beware of the machinations of Europeans, and not sacrifice the interests of his country by keeping himself aloof from a movement which has already been joined by all classes of the Indian people, and will, in the near future, be joined by the Anglo-Indians themselves—a movement which is calculated to do good to Government and the people alike.

Sir Syud Ahmed and the Congress movement.

SAHACHAR,  
April 25th, 1888.

82. The *Jagatbasi*, of the 26th April, gives an imaginary conversation between two persons, in which one asks the other: "Wherein does Lord Ripon differ from Lord Dufferin," to which the other replies: "There is a great difference between Lord Ripon and Lord Dufferin; the name of the one ends with *rin*, which means in Bengali debt, and that of the other ends with *pan*, which means, in Bengali, resolve. Now Lord Ripon could not carry out his resolve, but the public debts incurred by Lord Dufferin will prove permanent. To discharge those debts we shall ultimately be compelled even to sell our wives."

Lord Ripon and Lord Dufferin.

JAGATBASI,  
April 26th, 1888.

83. The *Grambasi*, of the 26th April, says that Baboo Khagendra Nath Mitra, Deputy Magistrate of Uluberia, who has taken leave of absence for a few days, has, during the short period he has had charge of the sub-division, given sufficient proof that he is a liberal-minded officer and desires to do good to the people. The local public are sorry to part with him though only for a few days.

Baboo Khagendra Nath Mitra,  
Deputy Magistrate, Uluberia.

GRAMBASI,  
April 26th, 1888.

84. The *Surabhi and Patáka*, of the 26th April, is exceedingly glad to hear that the Lieutenant-Governor has rebuked a high official for his having used the term "Native" in an invidious sense in

Sir Stuart Bayley and the use of the term "Native."

SURABHI & PATAKA,  
April 26th, 1888.



connection with the Commissioners of the Dacca Municipality, and remarks that if respectable Englishmen adopt a more conciliatory tone towards the people of this country the present tension of feeling between the two communities will surely disappear.

**SAMAYA,**  
April 27th, 1888.

85. The *Samaya*, of the 27th April, says that on the 9th instant a meeting was held at Lucknow, under the presidency of the Maharajah of Bhanga, for the ostensible purpose of discussing questions "of national welfare." The real object, however, of the promoters of the meeting was to condemn the Congress movement; but fear of opposition led them to issue invitations to their own partisans only, and to disguise the true purpose for which the meeting was called. But notwithstanding all these precautions the movement proved a failure. After the fourth resolution, condemning as disloyal all the present political movements in the country, was passed, one Pundit Svami asked to be allowed to address the meeting in English. The President, following the advice of Rai Srikrishna Bahadur, one of the promoters of the meeting, did not grant the request of the Svami. Thereupon Pundit Saligram, who was present at the meeting, addressed the President in the following words:—"The President appears to have forgotten the duties of the Chairman to yield to the whim of Pundit Rai Bahadur. We can no longer repose our confidence in him, nor is he any more entitled to our respect." After this Pundit Svami and about 150 of the audience left the meeting, which had to be broken up for want of an audience. Simultaneously with this feeble protest at Lucknow against the Congress, a meeting in favour of that movement was held at Cawnpore under the presidency of a Mahomedan pleader. The audience consisted of men like Nawab Syud Ali Khan and other distinguished Mahomedan gentlemen of birth and position. Thus, instead of one Budruddin Tyabaji, who, as the old Syed Ahmed would have the public believe, was induced to join the Congress by the arts of its promoters, several Mahomedan gentlemen, of even nobler birth than that of the Syud, have now joined the Congress movement. What would the Syud say to this? And, after this demonstration by the Mahomedans, would the enemies of the National Congress still persist in calling it only a Hindu Congress?

**PRATIKAR,**  
April 27th, 1888.

86. The *Pratikar*, of the 27th April, is sorry to hear of the transfer of Baboo Prankumar Das, Deputy Magistrate of Lalbagh Sub-divisional officer of Lalbagh in Moorshedabad.

**SANJIVANI,**  
April 28th, 1888.

87. The *Sanjivani*, of the 28th April, says that having been compelled, in its first address to Lord Dufferin, to give expression to some unpleasant truths concerning His Excellency's public measures, with a view to remove the wrong impressions produced by the misrepresentations of his flatterers, the Editor now thinks it but fair that some mention should be made of Lord Dufferin's good acts also—

1. "Though we were not able to praise your public acts, and though we could not help protesting in very strong language against the Burmese War and other objectionable measures of your administration, still we must say a hundred times that few Viceroys ever came to this country who possessed so virtuous a character as you do. We reflect with deep gratitude that in point of purity of character you are in the same class with the immortal Ripon, Canning and Bentinck. We cannot help remembering with gratitude your attitude towards the theatres of Calcutta. We could not expect any other person to take up such an attitude as that. It is exceedingly gratifying to find such regard shown for morality. The moment your saw that it was improper to pay a visit to the theatre, the manager of which had artfully obtained a promise of your patronage, you declined



to grant his prayer. The blustering advocates of immorality hung down their heads in shame, and the Viceroy delighted his people by showing in his character such love and regard for virtue and moral purity. Yes, such moral purity is what is required. In a country where the Viceregal palace has been disgraced by an immoral ruler like Lord Lytton, and where statues are voted even to such a vicious ruler as Sir Ashley Eden, need it be said that the presence of such a virtuous ruler as you are promotes the cause of moral purity?"

2. "Your consort is a bright luminary in the Indian firmament. Who is there that will not cherish in grateful remembrance Her Ladyship's earnest endeavours to save the women of this country from the pangs of disease? The fact that she has been able to realise in imagination the sufferings of Indian women—sufferings which are witnessed every day with apathy and indifference by the Native Princes—and to resolve within herself to bring those sufferers such relief as she may, is enough to justify her title to rank as a country-woman of the immortal Miss Nightingale and other philanthropic English ladies. We cannot sufficiently admire the spirit of noble self-sacrifice shown by Lady Dufferin, who instead of seeking her own comfort and pleasure, or trying to please her own country-women in this country, has felt for the suffering women of India and laboured to do them good."

3. "We should have liked to dwell upon your virtues at greater length, but unfortunately we cannot think of any other. It is well known that you are an affable man. We had expected much from you. We cherished the expectation that you would tread in the footsteps of Lord Ripon and widen the path of our progress. But those expectations have been dashed to the ground. Instead of a liberal policy, we were treated to the Burmese War and other objectionable measures. These have greatly pained us. All this has made it our duty to write strongly against your public measures. But we should be ungrateful if we did not at the same time refer to the good acts done by you and your illustrious consort. We would only ask you to bear in mind that the people of India are neither ungrateful nor stupid."

88. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 29th April, questions the efficiency of the Relief Committee established in Dacca for the purpose of giving aid to people who

The Dacca Relief Committee.

suffered loss during the late tornado at that place. In the first place most men have not received any aid from the Committee, and in the second place many discreditable stories are current about those who have received that aid. The proceedings of the Committee should be given to the public without delay.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
April 29th, 1888.

89. The *Navavibhakar Sādhārani*, of the 30th April, says that though the endeavour to produce ill-feeling between Hindus and Mussulmans may lead to a tem-

The Hindus and Mussulmans.

porary alienation between the two races, it is certain that that alienation will not be permanent. Many eminent Mussulmans of the North-Western Provinces attended a public meeting lately held at Lucknow to express their sympathy with the objects of the National Congress. These Mussulmans have utterly discredited Syud Ahmed by attending the meeting. The great majority of respectable Mussulmans live in the North-Western Provinces, and there is nothing to fear if they are resolved to frustrate the evil intention of those who want to excite hostility between Hindus and Mussulmans. Nor is it likely that the efforts of Nawab Abdool Luteef will succeed in producing any permanent alienation between the two races in Bengal. Many Mussulmans from the mofussil joined the Congress in disregard of the advice of some of their co-religionists.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
April 30th, 1888.



SOM PRAKASH,  
April 30th, 1888.

90. The *Som Prakash*, of the 30th April, can call to mind no act of Mr. Turnbull, the late Secretary to the Corporation of Calcutta, which might justify the Calcutta public in voting him a portrait.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,  
April 12th, 1888.

91. The *Samvad Bahika*, of the 12th April, says that the want of good drinking water in a large number of villages of the Balasore district is one of the several causes that bring about many diseases in the hot season. The Local and District Boards therefore should do something in this direction by repairing tanks or wells that are situated near rest-houses or thickly-populated villages.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,

92. The same paper has no sympathy with the section of the Native Press in Bengal that tried to oppose the demonstration in favour of Lord Dufferin, and is of opinion that Lord and Lady Dufferin very well deserve the thanks of the natives of India.

UTKAL DIPIKA,  
April 14th, 1888.

93. The Rassolkunda correspondent of the *Utkal Dipika*, of the 14th April, represents the views of the Uriyas of the place by pointing out that as it has been resolved to create an Assistant Inspectorship of schools for the Ganjam Division, a competent Uriya, or, in his absence, a European, should be appointed to that post to the entire exclusion of *Kama Brahmins*, who, in his opinion, are very unfriendly towards the Uriyas of that part of Orissa.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
April 18th, 1888.

94. The *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of the 18th April, has been very much pleased with that order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal which directs visitors of jails in that Presidency to report to Government the names of those convicts who, in their opinion, deserve release.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD.

95. The same paper is very much disgusted with the manner in which an attempt was lately made to sell the opium shops of Balasore by the Deputy Collector in charge of the Excise Department. Shopkeepers of the past year who had no mind to renew their contracts on the old terms, which were, in their opinion, damaging to their interests, were menaced to purchase their old shops either at the old rates or rates higher than the same. When they refused to accept those offers, the dates of sale were postponed. Consequently, all the opium shops of the Balasore town were temporarily closed and the opium-eaters were put to great inconvenience. The paper points out that the authorities troubled and oppressed the opium shop-keepers of the town last year in various ways; hence they are unwilling to purchase again those shops at what they consider exorbitant rates.

#### ASSAM PAPERS.

SILCHAR,  
April 23rd, 1888.

96. The *Silchar*, of the 23rd April, says that no good has come of the Education Conference that sat at Shillong last year. Its proceedings are to this day unknown to the public. It is thus that all action of Government taken in the interest of the people generally ends.

SILCHAR.

97. The same paper hopes that the Deputy Commissioner of Silchar will grant the prayer made to him by the respectable people of that district for the removal of the coolie depôt situated in the middle of the town. As the



coolie depôt is the centre of disease in the town, its removal seems to be desirable; and as the cyclone has dismantled the depôt, its removal can now be effected most advantageously.

98. The same paper says that some of the sections of the Assam Land Regulation are so ambiguously worded that even Judges find it difficult to arrive

The Assam Land Regulation.

at satisfactory conclusions in regard to them. To give one instance. One Brajanath Chowdhuri, a zemindar, brought a suit in the Munsif's Court against one Birwani Singh for the recovery of rent at the old rate for the Bengali year 1291 and at a new and enhanced rate for the year 1292. The date of the institution of this suit was 7th July 1886, just six days from the date on which the new Regulation making it obligatory on owners of land to get their names registered in the Collectorate, came into force; and as the plaintiff did not get his name registered as required by the new law, the Munsif rejected his claim for the year 1292 and gave him a decree only for the rent due for the year 1291. The man carried his case to the Judge's Court for the remaining portion of his claim. But the Judge not only dismissed his appeal, but stated that he would dismiss his claim even for the portion for which the Munsif had given him a decree, if only the defendant lodged an appeal against the Munsif's decree. The case was taken in special appeal to the High Court. The High Court reversed the decision of the Judge and ordered him to retry the case. Thus the same section of the Regulation is differently interpreted by different men. It should now be clear how the provision in the new law regarding registration of names presses hard on landowners. The new Chief Commissioner of Assam is therefore requested to exempt those landowners from the operation of the Land Registration law who have recently got their names registered under the provisions of the old Act.

SILCHAR,  
April 23rd, 1888.

99. The *Paridarshak*, of the 23rd April, learns that the amla of the sub-divisional office at Sunamgunge in Assam take bribes from people who go there to get their names registered. The system of registration of names is in itself oppressive, and the taking of bribes makes it doubly so. It is hoped that Joges Baboo will look to the matter.

The Sunamgunge sub-divisional office.

PARIDARSHAK,  
April 23rd, 1888.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 5th May 1888.



